

Weekly Views

Be informed about the Indiana Department of Correction

"There are no such things as limits to growth, because there are no limits to the human capacity for intelligence, imagination, and wonder." ~ Ronald Reagan

Friday, August 21, 2009

Central Office and Wabash Valley staffers, including Commissioner Buss and Superintendent Bruce Lemmon, toured the newly-renovated Knox County Community Corrections 140 bed work release facility in Vincennes this week.

Jerry Vance, Dir. of Programs, Stephen Hall, Dir. of Religious Services, David Liebel, Deputy Dir. of Religious Services, and Joe Huff, CIF Family Management Prog. Coord., all attended the OFA Strong Practices, Bright Promises: Healthy Marriage and Responsible Fatherhood Conference held in Washington, D.C. Dr. Hall and Mr. Liebel presented a workshop on "Improving Re-entry Outcomes through Strengthening Families."

20 members of Westville's Emergency Response Team won the FedEx Plane Pull Challenge at the Indianapolis Airport, pulling a plane 12 feet in 5.33 seconds. WCC's Recreation Fund donated \$1000 to benefit Special Olympics Indiana.

Miami Correctional Facility placed 3rd in the Public Safety Division of the FedEx Plane Pull Challenge to benefit Special Olympics Indiana, pulling a 150,000 lb. FedEx airplane 12 feet in 6.237 seconds. The team raised \$2,090.

Plainfield Correctional Complex's E-Squad team also participated in the FedEx Plane Pull. They raised \$1,876.50.

20 members of New Castle Correctional Facility's SERT Team participated in the Special Olympics FedEx Plane Pull and raised \$2,733, which was 5th overall for fundraising. The team placed 2nd in the Public Safety category for the pull.

Pendleton Juvenile raised \$949.69 during Fresh Favorites. The IN2WORK students filled orders quickly and accurately.

The Indianapolis Parole Office (PD3) had two teams of agents and supervisors that participated in a sweep in support of IMPD-NW District's efforts at reducing violent crime. Five paroled offenders were arrested.

PEN Products held its first U.S. Department of Labor Apprenticeship graduation for 16 offender workers at the Branchville Correctional Facility. Superintendent Gil Peters, PEN Products Director Mike Herron, PEN Products Operations Manager Doug Evans and U.S. Department of Labor Regional Director John Delgado all spoke at the event.

Westville's Employee Action Planning Committee sold root beer floats to fundraise for the facility's Picnic in the Park.

Staff Development Emergency Operations concluded the first "Optimizing Heightened Effectiveness" class at CTI for 25 supervisors. The program shows supervisors how to increase their managerial skills in a multigenerational workforce.

Indiana State Prison staff donated \$200 worth of school supplies to the Citywide Back- to-School drive in Michigan City.

39 New Castle Correctional Facility offenders graduated from the PLUS program in front of 56 visitors and volunteers.

30 correctional professionals, who were attending an NIC Conference in Indianapolis, visited the Pendleton Correctional Facility. The conference focused on the "Management of Violent, High-Risk, and High Security Inmates."

Miami hosted 200 volunteers for the Gospel Echoes Team Freedom Rally and had a cookout for offenders and staff.

Madison's garden has harvested 2 tons of produce, which was donated to the Salvation Army and other local charities.

The Indiana State Prison donated 35 refurbished bicycles to The Villages foster care organization in Portage, Indiana.

Plainfield Re-entry Educational Facility hosted participants from the Aftercare for Indiana through Mentoring (AIM) program for a tour of the facility. AIM focuses on re-entry and has participants from Maine, Ohio, and Indiana.

Michigan DOC representatives toured IWP and discussed female programs that could be replicated in Michigan.

Indianapolis Juvenile Correctional Facility raised \$104 in donations for The Villages school supplies fundraiser.

Indiana State Prison's gardens harvested 400 lbs of vegetables, which were donated to the Simeon Square Assisted Living.

Offenders from New Castle's L Dorm (minimum housing) assisted with the set up and dismantling of a booth for NCCF staff at the Mooreland Free Fair, as well as daily pickup of trash and cleaning the fairgrounds.

PLUS was recently highlighted in ACA's *Corrections Today*: <http://www.aca.org/fileupload/177/ahaidar/Hall.pdf>.

From the Office of Edwin G. Buss, Commissioner